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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

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Budget Books
FY 82 Authorization

EAS-81-1400/B

November 13, 1981

Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Casey:

Thank you for your letter of November 9, 1981 in which you expressed your enthusiastic support for the continuation of research and development on the NAVSTAR/Global Positioning Satellite System approved by the House-Senate conferees on the FY1982 Defense Authorization bill.

I, in turn, wish to express my thanks to you for the strong support you have shown this important national security program. Without your help, and that of the Secretary of Defense, it would have been most difficult to sustain the Senate position on GPS to the extent we did.

I would also like to take this opportunity to call your attention to the statement of managers' language which accompanies the conference report. The conferees indicated in their discussion of the Global Positioning Satellite System that continuing Congressional support for this program will be contingent upon the nature of the priority assigned to developing and deploying this system by the Administration and that any future slippage in the currently planned initial operational capability date may result in program termination. It is imperative that the Central Intelligence Agency, the military services and other potential national security users of the GPS system redouble their efforts to show support for and the importance of the NAVSTAR program between now and the consideration of the FY1983 Authorization bill.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Secretary Weinberger as well in the hopes that he will continue to be active on behalf of this promising system and will insure that the armed services do likewise.

Sincerely,



John Tower

cc: Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger